

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

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C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 4614

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNGA, NL
SUBJ: US/GON BILATERALS

REF: NEWLIN/VANHEUVEN TELCON SEPT 9

1. IF A BILATERAL MEETING ISSCHEDULED BETWEEN THE SECRETARY
AND DUTCH FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL (WE UNDERSTAND DUTCH
EMBASSY HAS APPROACHED DEPT), THERE WILL BE NO MAJOR BILATERAL
ISSUES CLOUDING THE HORIZON. THERE ARE HOWEVER SEVERAL
POINTS WHICH WE MIGHT RAISE AND SOME WHICH VAN DER STOEL MAY
WISH TO MENTION.

2. TOPICS US SIDE MIGHT RAISE:
A. DUTCH HAVE RECENTLY BEEN FORTHCOMING IN SUPPORT US/UK
INITIATIVES ON RHODESIA. PRIMIN HAS ALSO SENT WARM
TELEGRAM OF SUPPORT TO THE PRESIDENT ON THE OCCASION OF THE
SIGNING OF THE PANAMA CANAL TREATIES. SECRETARY MIGHT WISH
TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION. ALSO BRIEF ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY THE
SECRETARY OF THE RECENT DUTCH CONTRIBUTION TO THE UN FUND FOR
DRUG ABUSE CONTROL (EARMARKED THROUGH THE UN DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAM) WOULD HELP US IN TRYING TO GETTHE DUTCH TO DO MORE
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TO COMBAT NARCOTICS ABUSE. THE MEETING WITH VAN DER STOEL
WILL BE THE FIRST HIGH LEVEL ONE BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES
SINCE THE CONTRIBUTION WAS ANNOUNCED. IT IS AN APPROPRIATE
MOMENT THEREFORE TO MAKE A SIMPLE STATEMENT OF APPRECIATION
FOR THE DUTCH GIFT BECAUSE THE US (THROUGH BOTH THE
EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND CONGRESS) PLAYED A LARGE PART IN
PERSUADING THE DUTCH TO MAKE IT.

B. DUTCH HAVE JUST INFORMED US THAT THEY WILL PROVIDE \$20 MILLION LOAN AS THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO BALANCE OF PAYMENTS ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL. VAN DER STOEL PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THIS OPERATION AND WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT SECRETARY ACKNOWLEDGE VAN DER STOELS AND GONS HELP.

C. DUTCH ARE GENERALLY WITH UN ON MTN OBJECTIVES AND WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO STATE THAT WE APPRECIATE AND COUNT ON DUTCH SUPPORT FOR SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF MTN.

D. NEW CENTER LEFT DUTCH GOVERNMENT WHICH IS NOW BEING FORMED WILL FACE CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTIES DECIDING WHERE TO PARE DOWN GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES. IT IS VERY MUCH IN THE US INTEREST THAT THIS NOT RESULT IN DEFENSE REDUCTIONS INCOMPATIBLE WITH RECENT NATO DECISIONS AIMING FOR THREE PERCENT INCREASE. US SIDE MAY WISH TO STRESS IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO SHORT AND LONG TERM MEASURES NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION IN THE ALLIANCE AND STRESS HOPE DUTCH WILL CONTINUE TO CARRY THEIR FAIR SHARE OF COMMON DEFENSE BURDEN.

E. PRESIDENT CARTERS EMPHASIS ON HUMAN RIGHTS HAS STRUCK A WARM CHORD IN THE NETHERLANDS. RECENT DISCUSSION AT NATO INDICATES (NATO 8582) THAT DUTCH WHILE AWARE OF POTENTIAL EAST-WEST CONFRONTATION IF WEST PRESSES THE MATTER IN TOO SPECIFIC TERMS IN BELGRADE, ARE LIKELY TO BE AMONG OUR STRONGEST SUPPORTERS. ANYTHING US SIDE CAN SAY ABOUT OUR GENERAL APPROACH IN BELGRADE WOULD BE HELPFUL AND APPRECIATED.

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3. TOPICS WHICH DUTCH MAY RAISE:

A. NEW DUTCH GOVERNMENT WILL BE FACED ALMOST IMMEDIATELY WITH THE NECESSITY TO REVIEW ITS POLICIES ON VARIOUS KEY DEFENSE ISSUES, INCLUDING SALT, MBFR AND THE ENHANCED RADIATION REDUCED BLAST WEAPON. DUTCH SIDE MAY INQUIRE ABOUT US POSITIONS ON EACH OF THESE ISSUES.

B. VAN DER STOEL WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY RAISE ISSUE OF NON PROLIFERATION. NEW DUTCH GOVERNMENT WILL BE FACED WITH DECISIONS AFFECTING FRG-BRAZILIAN CONTRACT AND PROPOSED ENLARGEMENT OF ALMELO ENRICHMENT FACILITIES. GON INTND TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN INFCEP.

C. MIDDLE EAST, CYPRUS AND SOUTH AFRICA ARE ALL ISSUES OF CONCERN TO GON, THOUGH WHETHER VAN DER STOEL WILL RAISE ANY OF THEM WILL DEPEND ON STATE OF PLAY AT TIME OF BILATERALS AND STATUS OF EC COORDINATION.

D. DUTCH HAVE BEEN DEEPLY INTERESTED IN DEVELOPMENT AID AND CIEC. MOST LIKELY THEY WILL PURSUE THESE ISSUES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE 32ND UNGA. DUTCH SIDE MAY HOWEVER RAISE PREPARATIONS FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND POST CIEC PROBLEMS IN BILATERALS.

4. AS DEPT AWARE, CROWN PRINCESS BEATRIX AND HER

HUSBAND PRINCE CLAUSE WILL BE VISITING US BEGINNING LATE
THIS MONTH. WE UNDERSTAND ROYAL COUPLE
MAY BE RECEIVED BY VP MONDAL. BRIEFING PAPER FOR
SECRETARYS BILATERAL WITH VAN DER STOEL COULD
USEFULLY CONTAIN BACKGROUND MENTION OF THIS VISIT PLUS
ANYTHING OF SUBSTANCE WHICH MIGHT COME UP IN THE
COURSE OF DISCUSSIONS WITH VP.
MCCLOSKEY

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